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SIPDIS

FOR WHA/BSC MDASHBACH, INL/LP DHOOKER

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TAGS: [SNAR](#) [AFIN](#) [PREL](#) [KCRIM](#) [PA](#)

SUBJECT: PARAGUAY'S 2009 SECOND QUARTER INL REPORT

I. SUMMARY: The Government of Paraguay's National Anti-Drug Secretariat (SENAD) continued to work diligently on drug enforcement activities in the second quarter of 2009. Seizures of both cocaine and marijuana increased during the second quarter while authorities continued disrupting drug trafficking. INL continues to support SENAD's active demand reduction program, and provides operational support to the IPR Specialized Technical Unit (UTE). INL also continues to provide assistance for the Trafficking in Person Program (TIP) run by the Woman's Secretariat. END SUMMARY.

II. PROGRAM DISCUSSION:

A. Demand Reduction:

During the months of April, May and June, SENAD's Prevention Program provided a total of 213 workshops, reaching 7,341 students, teachers and parents. It also coordinated activities for prevention of drug use in 35 educational institutions and disseminated 1,957 informational pamphlets, 36 banners and 62 DVDs to teachers and counselors to use during workshops.

SENAD's prevention unit continued working on its main objective to reach hundreds of participants each month in the Central Department, Fernando de la Mora and Villa Elisa. The program included formal workshops, informal sessions, public seminars, and the distribution of informational materials.

B. Narcotics Detection Canine (K-9) Program:

The canine program continues to seize drugs and enhance the overall efforts of SENAD's drug interdiction program. This quarter, K-9 alerts led to the seizure of 54 kilos of cocaine and the arrests of five suspects in Asuncion, Pedro Juan Caballero and Ciudad del Este Airports.

C. Law Enforcement:

On April 3, SENAD seized 1.2 tons of marijuana and 30 kilograms of marijuana seeds and destroyed three and a half hectares of marijuana crops. No arrests were made in this operation that was conducted in Amambay Department.

On April 29 a search warrant was executed in Amambay Department. In this operation, SENAD seized 16.9 kilos of cocaine, three vehicles, one motorcycle, four cell phones and one firearm in addition to other items. Three Paraguayan citizens and one Brazilian citizen were arrested.

On May 8, a search warrant was executed in Amambay Department. SENAD seized 3.7 tons of marijuana, one power generator and five hydraulic presses. One Paraguayan citizen and one Brazilian citizen were arrested in this operation.

On May 28, SENAD seized 12 kilos of cocaine in Amambay Department during a vehicle screening operation and arrested one Paraguayan citizen.

On June 11, SENAD executed a search warrant in Canindeyu Department based on intelligence information. In this operation, SENAD seized 4.8 kilos of cocaine, one firearm, one vehicle and one motorcycle. One Paraguayan citizen and one Brazilian citizen were arrested.

On June 17, SENAD seized 961 kilos of marijuana and destroyed one tent during a search warrant in Amambay Department. No arrests were made during this operation.

D. Auto Theft:

National Police reported 1,306 vehicles (cars, pickups, SUVs and motorcycles) stolen nationwide during the second quarter of 2009.

E. Border Control:

Border control continues to be weak. Control posts coincide with Paraguayan Customs offices at the main points of entry/exit of the country, leaving long stretches of Paraguay's borders with Argentina, Bolivia, and Brazil unattended.

F. Domestic Violence and Trafficking in Persons:

INL continues to support the anti-TIP program providing funds to cover operational costs for a shelter in Asuncion which is run by the Woman's Secretariat. INL will disburse one last installment to Woman's Secretariat to cover TIP Shelter rent for July, August and September. The Woman's Secretariat will continue running the TIP Shelter after INL's cooperation ends. On June 17, 2009, the U.S. Embassy donated USD 280,000 in G/TIP funds to the International Organization for Migration (OIM) which will be used to fight TIP in the Tri Border Area (TBA) of Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay.

G. Intellectual Property Rights:

During the second quarter of 2009, the Specialized Technical Unit (UTE) had an enormous success and seized pirated goods and assets such as clothes, counterfeit electronic game consoles, and game cartridges, disrupting contraband organizations by seizing equipment and other consumer goods valued at USD 3,894,106. During the same quarter, UTE received USD 4,632.75 in INL operational support.

H. Money Laundering and Financial Crimes:

INL funds will support an upgrade in financial crime software and technical assistance for the Secretariat for Money Laundering Prevention (SEPRELAD). SEPRELAD is hoping to have a law passed by the Paraguayan National Congress during the month of July which will make its Director a Minister reporting to the President, extend the range of financial institutions under its surveillance, and provide the necessary tools to investigate institutions under suspicion of financing terrorism.

III. TRAINING:

A SENAD agent returned from a five day seminar in Salta, Argentina which ran from April 27 to May 1. The Seminar was organized by DEA Argentina and focused on "Drugs Information Center-CID" software use to facilitate the sharing of information among anti-drug law enforcement agencies. Total cost for the seminar was USD 1,900.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES:

2009 Quarterly SENAD Statistics

	1st	2nd	Year to Date
Cocaine Seized (Kg):	28	75	103
Cocaine Precursors/acetone (Kg)	0	498	498
Marijuana Seized (Tons):	9	32	41
Marijuana Crops Destroyed (Has):	610	277	887
Marijuana Related (Kg): (Wax, seeds and plants)	1,800	321	2,121
Total Arrests:	56	59	115

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